Gujarat State were around 11.6% more than the previous year. In addition, during 1994-95 around 5,500 tonnes of steel has been supplied through the authorised distributor at Rajkot.

Performance of SAIL

8439. SHRI J. S. RAJU:

SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI:

SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether SAIL has improved its performance during 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) if so, the target set up by SAIL for the production of Steel during 1995-96; and

(c) the steps taken by SAIL to improve further performance and to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE O. THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The saleable steel production at SAIL integrated plants during the years, 1993-94 and 1994-95 showed a growth of 4% over the prevous years.

(b) Production target of saleable steel for the five integrated SAIL steel plants (including IISCO) during 1995-96 is 9.255 Million Tonnes. The production target of SAIL plants (including special steel units but excluding subsidiaries) is 9.1 Million Tonnes.

(c) Steps taken by SAIL to further increase the production of saleable steel include:

— modernisation and technological upgradation of plants;

— improving the quality of inputs;

— better deployment and maintenance of equipment;

— improving inter plant synergy by transfer of inprocess material for value addition; and

— augmentation of power generation to reduce dependence on the grid.

Functioning of new steel plants in the country

8440. SHRI J. S. RAJU: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) how many new steel plants have come to function in various States of the country during the last three years; and

(b) how many of them are public enterprises and how many of them are private?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) Under the New Industrial Policy announced in July, 1991 Iron & Steel Industry has been removed from the list of industries reserved for public sector and has also been exempted from the purview of compulsory licensing, except for certain locational restrictions. No Industrial Licence is, therefore, required to set up a steel plant. However, as per available information, during the last three years 1992-93 to 1994-95, excluding the induction furnace sector, seven new steel plants based on the electric arc furnace route of steel making have been commissioned/partly commissioned in different States. These plants are in the private sector.